

SAN MATEO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
1250 SAN CARLOS AVENUE, SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
MINUTES OF AUGUST 1, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: C. Groom, D. Horsley (Chair), E. Beach (Vice Chair), K. Matsumoto, R. Medina, C. Romero (arrived at 5:07 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: M. Freschet

STAFF PRESENT: J. Hartnett, C. Mau, A. Chan, J. Slavitt, J. Hurley, S. Murphy, T. Dubost, J. Cassman, J. Brook, D. Seamans

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Don Horsley called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

ROLL CALL

Authority Secretary Dora Seamans called the roll. A quorum was confirmed.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Tom Ziola, Menlo Park, spoke about issues with the Redi-Wheels service and was referred to Tina Dubost, Manager, Accessible Services.

REPORT OF THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair Horsley noted that the report was in the packet.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of July 11, 2019
- Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report for the Period Ending June 30, 2019

Motion/Second: Beach/Medina

Ayes: Beach, Groom, Matsumoto, Medina, Horsley

Absent: Freschet, Romero

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Horsley said that there was no report.

Director Carlos Romero arrived at 5:07 pm.

JOINT POWERS BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Jim Hartnett, Executive Director, said the report was in the packet. He noted that at the meeting earlier that morning, the Board did not finish making their comments on the service vision or the organizational part of the Caltrain business plan and would be scheduling a future time to discuss those items.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Hartnett said the report was in the packet.

Director Karyl Matsumoto expressed her apology for the behavior of elected officials towards staff at the recent C/CAG (City/County Association of Governments) meeting, specifically referring to Chief Officer, Planning, Grants/Transportation Authority April Chan's and Manager of Programming and Monitoring Joel Slavits presentation on the TA Strategic Plan. Director Rico Medina also expressed his apologies to staff.

Ms. Chan noted that the public outreach survey deadline had been extended until August 5.

PROGRAM REPORT: ALTERNATIVE CONGESTION RELIEF

John Ford, Executive Director of Commute.org, gave a presentation on the organization's programs and outreach efforts.

Director Medina asked for an update on the shuttle program's difficulties with recruiting and retaining drivers. Mr. Ford said that the impacts of the driver shortage problem had stabilized and that fewer routes have had to be cancelled than in the past.

Director Matsumoto asked about funding partners and the shuttle consortium. Mr. Ford said that the consortium consisted of 70 employers and property managers who provide matching funds that Commute.org uses to leverage Measure A grants. She suggested coordinating SamTrans' microtransit program with the Commute.org app. Mr. Ford said that their Star program has a comprehensive app. Director Matsumoto said that the City of South San Francisco has had a guaranteed ride home for at least 15 years. Mr. Ford said that those same employees are now eligible for Commute.org's guaranteed ride home program.

Vice Chair Emily Beach praised the work of Commute.org and its five-year strategic plan.

Director Romero said the TA needed to find better ways to use the services already in place.

Chair Horsley asked about the Scoop carpooling platform. Mr. Ford said the program is still going strong, as is the Waze Carpool app. He added that they want to be a resource for the County for other transportation modes such as scooters.

Public Comment:

Rich Hedges, San Mateo, expressed his opinions about BART.

Director Carole Groom said she was very pleased with the presentation.

Mr. Ford discussed the upcoming Foster City Express route.

FINANCE

Authorize the Allocation of \$567,036 in Measure A Alternative Congestion Relief Funds to the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance (Commute.Org) to Support the Countywide Congestion Relief Program for Fiscal Year 2020

Mr. Slavits briefly summarized the staff report.

Approved by Resolution No. 2019-13:

Motion/Second: Groom/Romero

Ayes: Beach, Groom, Matsumoto, Medina, Romero, Horsley

Absent: Freschet

Authorize the Allocation of \$18,979,419 in Measure A Funds to the San Mateo County Transit District for the SamTrans Paratransit Program and Caltrain

Derek Hansel, Chief Financial Officer, briefly summarized the staff report.

Approved by Resolution No. 2019-14:

Motion/Second: Romero/Matsumoto

Ayes: Beach, Groom, Matsumoto, Medina, Romero, Horsley

Absent: Freschet

STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND APPROVAL OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Seamus Murphy, Chief Communications Officer, summarized recent legislation.

He noted that the Environment and Public Works Committee in the Senate introduced the next Surface Transportation Reauthorization bill. He said that the current bill expires next year.

He requested the Board's support for (1) SB 277, which would make adjustments to the local partnership program part of SB 1, and (2) SB 5, which would establish a committee at the state level to provide affordable housing and transportation infrastructure projects.

Chair Horsley asked about the status of HR 2939, where the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) threatened to hold back funding for airport needs only. Mr. Murphy said there had been no update.

Director Romero asked how the guaranteed formula funding that would result from the passage of SB 277 would compare to potential funding with the competitive approach. Mr. Murphy said that is likely to become more difficult to secure funding within the competitive environment, and that the TA cannot really continue to count on that source of funding.

Motion/Second: Medina/Groom

Ayes: Beach, Groom, Matsumoto, Medina, Romero, Horsley

Absent: Freschet

REQUESTS FROM THE AUTHORITY

There were no requests.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE AUTHORITY

The correspondence was included in the reading files.

DATE/TIME OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Chair Horsley announced that the next meeting would be on Thursday, September 5, 2019, 5:00 pm at the San Mateo County Transit District Administrative Building, Bacciocco Auditorium, 2nd Floor, San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070.

REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL

Joan Cassman, Legal Counsel, announced that the lawsuit involving Pacificans for a Scenic Coast versus the California Department of Transportation, et al. had been dismissed.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:01 pm.

An audio/video recording of this meeting is available online at www.smcta.com. Questions may be referred to the Authority Secretary's office by phone at 650.508.6242 or by email to board@smcta.com.